



# MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS

1400 South 19<sup>th</sup> Ave Bozeman, MT 59718-5496  
406-994-4042

November 29, 2019

To: FWP Region 3 EA Standard Distribution List  
Adjacent Landowners

The enclosed Decision Notice has been prepared for the proposed site improvements to the Henneberry Fishing Access Site on the Beaverhead River. This area has a long history as popular river access for local and visiting anglers. Additional development of this site will provide improved recreational opportunities for fishing, boating, floating by providing additional parking, and improved boat access.

Based on the Environmental Assessment, public comment, and FWP evaluation, it is my decision to proceed with the proposed action as described in the Henneberry Fishing Access Site Proposed Improvements Draft Environmental Assessment. This alternative addresses the impacts and improvements directly related to the Henneberry FAS.

Questions regarding this Decision Notice should be directed to:

Jay Pape  
Fishing Access Site Manager  
1400 South 19<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Bozeman, MT 59718  
406-994-5592  
Or emailed to: [JPape@mt.gov](mailto:JPape@mt.gov)

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

Mark Deleray  
Region Three Supervisor



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## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT DECISION NOTICE

### HENNEBERRY FISHING ACCESS SITE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
Region Three, Bozeman  
November 29, 2019

#### **Proposed Action**

Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks proposes to construct additional parking facilities, improve boat launch facilities, and improve the handicap accessibility at Henneberry Fishing Access Site (FAS) in order to accommodate the increasing popularity and use of the site.

#### **Montana Environmental Policy Act**

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks is required by the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) to assess significant potential impacts of a proposed action to the human and physical environment. In compliance with MEPA, the proposed project was made available to the standard distribution list for 30 days beginning March 28, 2019.

#### **Summary of Public Comment**

FWP received four (4) comments regarding the proposed action during the 30-day public comment period.

#### **Two comments in support of the proposed project.**

One comment expressed support for the project, stating: "...the plan looks very good and we all know that the site needs expanding..."

The second comment expressed support for proposed improvements and requested a pre-construction meeting to discuss final design features of the parking area, possible improvements to the west side of the Beaverhead river, and overall weed management.

#### **Summary of the third comment.**

The third comment was regarding the spread and introduction of noxious weeds during the construction process. This party offered FWP their help in identifying local sources of weed free gravel materials for the project.

**Summary of the fourth comment.**

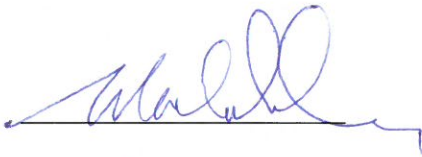
The fourth comment expressed concerns regarding the ADA improvements mentioned in the draft. These modifications do not pertain to the boat ramp but to a paved ADA approved walkway that will service the latrine. Another point pertained to parallel parking along the existing roadway. The additional parking area will help to prevent parking along the roadway as will the addition of No Parking signage. Additionally, comments pertaining to the improvements adding pressure to this reach of river when other sites are also in need of improvements. As user data supports, additional improvements to the Beaverhead River will be considered as funding allows.

**Decision**

Based on the Environmental Assessment, public comment, and FWP evaluation, it is my decision to proceed with the proposed action as described in the Henneberry Fishing Access Site Proposed Improvements Draft Environmental Assessment. This alternative will greatly improve the public experience and enhance access to this very popular stretch of the Beaverhead River.

**Appeal**

This project is subject to appeal, which must be submitted to the FWP Director (Martha Williams, Director, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, PO Box 200701, Helena, MT 59620-0701) in writing and postmarked within 30 days of the date on this decision notice. The appeal must specifically describe the basis for the appeal, explain how the appellant has previously commented to the department or participated in the decision-making process, and lay out how FWP may address the concerns in the appeal. If you have questions regarding this decision notice, please contact Jay Pape, Fishing Access Site Manager, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 1400 S 19<sup>th</sup> Ave, Bozeman, MT 59718, 406-994-5592.



Mark Deleray  
Region Three Supervisor

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